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FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7434

INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RHBVAKS/COMUSNAVCENT PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY

UNCLAS MANAMA 001052

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PGOV PTER KISL ASEC BA

SUBJECT: TERRORIST CELL TRIAL CONTINUES

REF: A. MANAMA 967

- ¶B. MANAMA 932
- ¶C. MANAMA 913
- ¶D. MANAMA 876
- ¶E. MANAMA 831
- ¶F. MANAMA 820
- ¶G. MANAMA 794
- ¶H. MANAMA 790
- 11. (U) The trial of five suspects charged under Bahrain's 2006 counter-terrorism law (reftels) resumed November 20 in Manama's High Criminal Court. The prosecution and defense presented opening arguments, and the court adjourned until December 12.
- 12. (U) Defense attorneys told media that the three defendants currently in custody (two are being tried in absentia) began a hunger strike on November 17 seeking release on bail. The judge denied the bail request on November 20, and the attorneys said their clients will continue their hunger strike.
- 13. (U) The defendants once again appeared in an open session of the court. Their families and supporters were present in the courtroom along with media.

HENZEL